

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 325  
By Harper

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Dr. Bobby Jones for  
outstanding achievement.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that this legislative body honor those people, who through  
their endeavors, are credits to their community and profession; and

WHEREAS, one such outstanding person is Dr. Bobby Jones, Tennessee's foremost  
gospel music pioneer; and

WHEREAS, born in Paris, Tennessee, he graduated from high school at age 15, earned  
a Master's from Tennessee State University, a Doctorate from Vanderbilt University and an  
Honorary Doctorate from Payne Theological Seminary; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Bobby Jones has excelled in many areas, being a leader and role  
model; and

WHEREAS, he is an educator, producer, singer, lecturer, concert performer and actor;  
and

WHEREAS, in 1975, Dr. Jones began his career in television in Nashville, Tennessee,  
with a children's show entitled "Fun City Five"; and

WHEREAS, in 1976, he started the Nashville Gospel Show on WSMV-TV, and Bobby  
Jones World on WDCN-TV; and

WHEREAS, he was awarded the International Film Festival Award for writer/performer of  
PBC-TV's "Make a Joyful Noise"; and

WHEREAS, in 1982, Dr. Bobby Jones made his music debut on NBC-TV's "Movie of the Week", "Sisters, Sisters"; and

WHEREAS, in 1984, he started WTVF-TV's "Spreading Love" and the American Christian Television Network's "Bobby Jones Gospel" in 1986; and

WHEREAS, he is Executive Producer and host of the highly rated Black Entertainment Television (BET) Network's "Bobby Jones Gospel"; and

WHEREAS, his numerous awards include a 1982 Grammy nomination for Soul Set Free LP, "Best Performance by a Black Contemporary Gospel Group"; the "Friend for Fisk" - Fisk University Benefit Concert; the NAACP Achievement Award; the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences Grammy Award for "Best Vocal Duo for a Soul Gospel Performance" ("I'm So Glad I'm Standing Here Today" duet with Barbara Mandrell); the Gospel Music Association (GMA) Dove Award for Black Contemporary Gospel Album of the Year, "Come Together"; the Anchorage, Alaska, Community Service Award; the London, England Commonwealth Award; and the prestigious Nashville, Tennessee, Community Service Award; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Bobby Jones exemplifies the spirit and dedication that is characteristic of an outstanding Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to honor and commend Dr. Bobby Jones for his dedication and commitment to the growth and development of gospel music; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we hereby recognize Dr. Bobby Jones as a valued Tennessee treasure and commend his notable achievements in gospel music.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.